


SEYMOUR, RALPH FLETCHER

DRAWER

19A

Artists - S

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Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Ralph Fletcher Seymour

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



THE STORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Paintings and Text by Ralph Fletcher Seymour

• Ralph Fletcher Seymour, 410 S. Michigan av., publisher, is one of the most active members of Chicago's artistic and literary groups. He is artist, etcher, illustrator, typographer, and writer, as well as publisher. He also is an adventurer and traveler, a veteran of many canoe trips and portages, and has written, illustrated, and published books about his adventures. The La Salle hotel commissioned Seymour to do a series of paintings on the life of Abraham Lincoln, some of which are reproduced here. The paintings are hung in the hotel's Lincoln room.

1

Abraham Lincoln

America's noblest son, was born in this log cabin at Hodgenville, Ky., Feb. 12, 1809.



2 Lincoln, 7 years old, trudged with his parents to a new home in Indiana. Fourteen years later they came to Illinois. The next year Lincoln settled in New Salem, where in his scant leisure hours he won a high rating in the rough village sports.

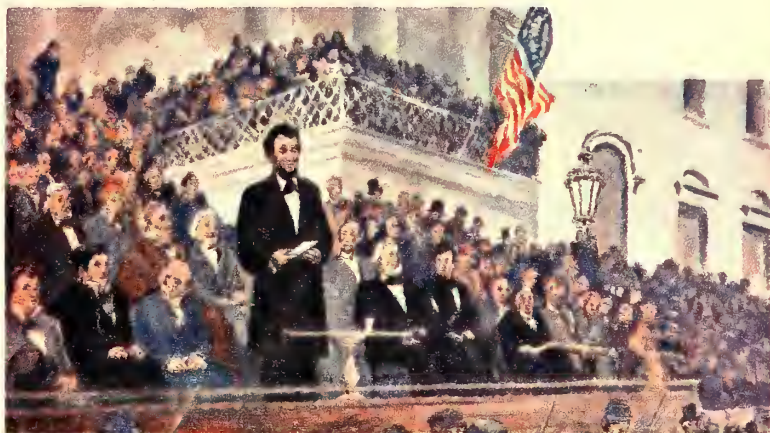


3 One of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, this one at Galesburg, Oct. 7, 1858. Lincoln wrote Douglas, proposing a series of debates on currently vital subjects, such as state rights or "bleeding Kansas." A young Chicago Tribune reporter wrote down these speeches and sent them to his paper. They received nation-wide publicity and decisively influenced the newly formed Republican party to nominate Lincoln, later on, as their Presidential candidate.

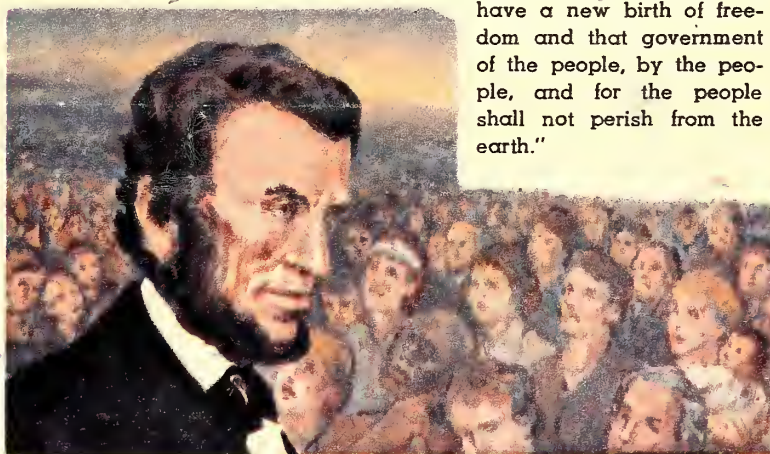


Chicago Sunday Tribune MAGAZINE

4 As the nation tensely watched, Lincoln was inaugurated President of the United States March 4, 1861, in a ceremony fraught with danger. His election had presaged secession. Fort Sumter fell April 14; the Civil war had commenced.



5 July 1, 1863, two great armies stood facing each other on the battlefield of Gettysburg. Three days later this crucial battle had ended and 50,000 men had paid the price of valor. Four months later Lincoln stood on that field, around him garlanded graves and a great multitude. He spoke of the dead and, in one of the shortest and most noble addresses, to the living he spoke undying words: "Highly resolve that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."



6 Lincoln's 56th birthday occurred Feb. 12, 1865. On April 9, Lee had surrendered at Appomattox, the Civil war was over, and Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln decided to see a gala performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's theater the evening of April 14. Their appearance in the President's box brought the packed audience to its feet to honor and cheer their leader. Two hours later he fell mortally wounded, the victim of an assassin's bullet. As the sun rose the morning of April 15, death claimed America's noblest son, Abraham Lincoln.

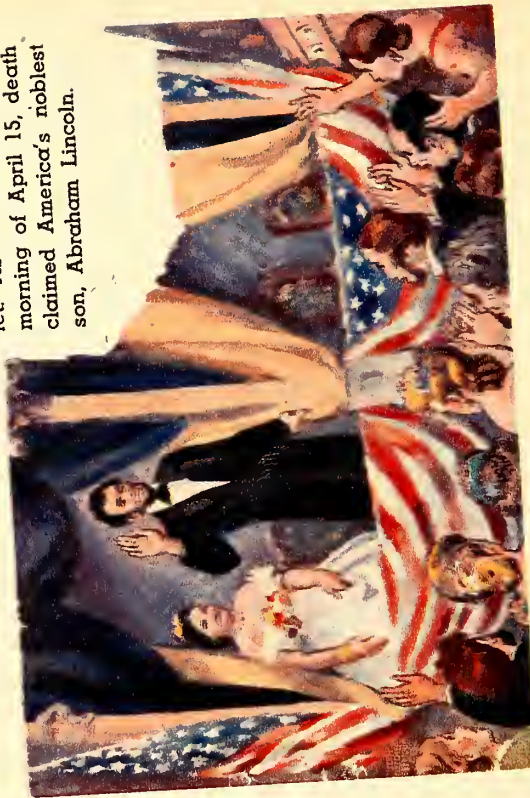


February 10, 1957

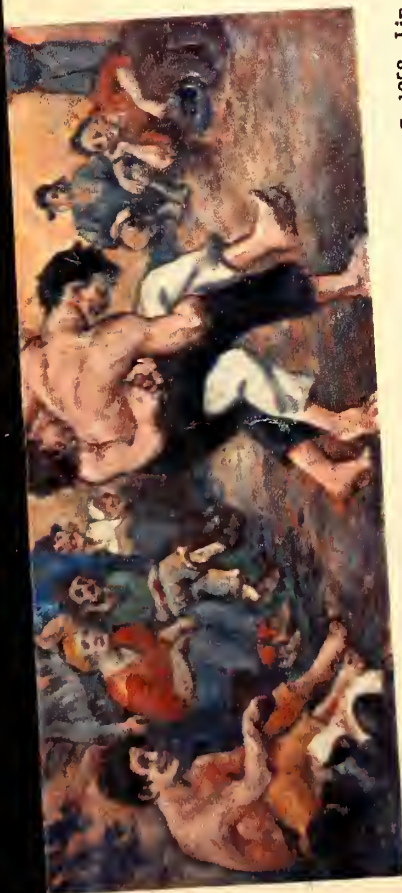
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